

October 30, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Chuck Schumer Minority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer:

This Congress, we have the opportunity to enact much-needed, meaningful tax reform. As we work with you on these efforts to bolster economic growth, close loopholes, and raise the incomes of working Americans, we respectfully request that you maintain the current tax treatment of advertising as a fully and immediately deductible business expense.

For the life of the tax code, advertising has been treated the same as all other regularly occurring business expenses, such as employee wages, rent, utilities, and office supplies. Any measure that would tax advertising – and therefore make it more expensive – cannot be justified as a matter of tax or economic policy. Moreover, such a proposal would run counter to a major goal of tax reform we can all agree on – simplifying the tax code.

Businesses across the country rely on advertising and promotional products to inform potential customers, generate sales, and support workers across our nation. According to a 2014 study by IHS Economics and Country Risk, advertising supports 20 million U.S. jobs and \$5.8 trillion in U.S. activity. That advertising contributes to 19 percent of our nation's GDP and is responsible for supporting the high-quality news and information we all rely on.

As the Senate continues to work towards tax reform, we ask that you continue to support local businesses and recognize the importance of advertising on jobs and the economy.

Sincerely,

John Boozman

**US Senator** 

Tarnmy Baldwin

US Senator

Jerry Moran US Senator Roger F. Wicker

US Senator





Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey US Senator Tammy Duckworth US Senator

Debbie Stabenow US Senator

Amy Klobuchar US Senator

Gary C. Peters US Senator

Angus S. King, Jr. US Senator

James M. Inhofe US Senator

Rand Paul US Senator

Joe Donnelly US Senator

CC: Senator Orrin Hatch, Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance Senator Ron Wyden, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Finance